

Message Text

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ORIGIN DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EUR-12 SAL-01

FEA-01 ACDA-10 AGR-10 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04

ERDA-07 FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13

JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02 OES-06 OMB-01

PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /190 R

DRAFTED BY D/LOSWNEWLIN:MLK

APPROVED BY D/LOS:RCBREWSTER

S/S:PBRIDGES

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P 050052Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

USINT BAGHDAD PRIORITY

CINCPAC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 193476

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY TO LOS CONFERENCE
PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE (SRI LANKA)

REF: STATE 189282

L. FOLLOWING IS THE MESSAGE THE SECRETARY SENT TO LOS
CONFERENCE PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE ON AUGUST 4. IT WAS
RELEASED TO THE PRESS IN WASHINGTON THE SAME DAY.

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2. BEGIN TEXT. DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

AS THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE RESUMES IN NEW YORK THIS WEEK I WANT TO OFFER YOU THE VIEWS OF MY GOVERNMENT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF COOPERATIVE PROGRESS TO RESOLVE THE MAJOR OUTSTANDING ISSUES REMAINING BEFORE US.

AS YOU KNOW, IT IS THE BELIEF OF THE UNITED STATES THAT THIS CONFERENCE HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS IN HISTORY. NO CURRENT MATTER ON THE INTERNATIONAL AGENDA IS MORE VITAL FOR THE LONG-TERM STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OF OUR PLANET. UNLESS THE COMPETITIVE PRACTICES AND CLAIMS OF NATIONS CAN BE HARMONIZED, THE WORLD COULD WELL FACE THE PROSPECT OF MOUNTING CONTENTION, OR EVEN CONFLICT.

THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE CONFERENCE THUS FAR GIVE US HOPE THAT A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION IS POSSIBLE -- ONE WHICH ALL NATIONS AND GROUPS OF NATIONS SHOULD FIND SATISFACTORY. BUT WE HAVE NOW COME TO A POINT WHERE RAPID, RESPONSIBLE AND COOPERATIVE PROGRESS IS INDISPENSABLE. THE WORLD COMMUNITY NOW FACES THE POSSIBILITY THAT DOMESTIC PRESSURES OF MANY NATIONS MAY SET IN MOTION UNILATERAL NATIONAL MOVES WHICH COULD GRAVELY IMPAIR THE CHANCES OF ACHIEVING A TREATY IN THE NEAR FUTURE, IF AT ALL. THUS IT IS VITAL THAT THIS CURRENT SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE BE SUCCESSFUL.

THE UNITED STATES ATTACHES THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THIS OBJECTIVE. I WILL ATTEND THE CONFERENCE DURING THE WEEK OF AUGUST 9, AND AT OTHER TIMES THROUGHOUT THE SESSION WILL GIVE THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE MY PERSONAL ATTENTION. THE LEADERS OF ALL DELEGATIONS AND THEIR GOVERNMENTS SHARE A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY TO WORK CONSCIENTIOUSLY AND WITH PERSERVERANCE. IF WE DO SO, I AM CONVINCED THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR US TO RESOLVE THE MAJOR REMAINING ISSUES DURING THIS SESSION.

AS ALWAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, YOUR LEADERSHIP WILL BE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE. I WANT TO CONVEY TO YOU MY OWN APPRECIATION, AND THAT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, FOR THE WORK YOU HAVE DONE.

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I REGRET THAT I WILL NOT HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH YOU BEFORE YOUR DEPARTURE FOR THE MEETING OF THE NON-ALIGNED NATIONS IN COLUMBO. BUT I WANT TO ASSURE YOU NOW THAT YOU MAY COUNT ON THE CONTINUING COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO WORK WITH YOU AND WITH ALL OTHERS AT THIS SESSION IN A SPIRIT OF MUTUAL COOPERATION. WE HAVE, MR. PRESIDENT, AN OPPORTUNITY AND A DUTY TO MAKE

THIS CONFERENCE A CORNERSTONE OF A NEW ERA IN INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS WHICH BRINGS PEACE, PROSPERITY AND JUSTICE TO ALL
PEOPLES.

WITH MY BEST WISHES,

SINCERELY,

HENRY A. KISSINGER

END TEXT. HABIB

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, NEGOTIATIONS, DIPLOMATIC NOTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE193476
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MLK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760301-0332
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760881/aaaactbm.tel
Line Count: 126
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN DLOS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 189282
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUL 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <27 JUL 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY TO LOS CONFERENCE PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE (SRI LANKA)
TAGS: PLOS, PSDC
To: ALL POSTS BAGHDAD CINCPAC MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006